

TGEI Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2008

Members Present

George Zukotynski, Chair
Lamont Price
Jesse Neely
Nat Johnson, Vice Chair

Members Present Via Conference Line

Kandi Thomas
Emily Wilson
Karen Hale, Past Chair

Members Absent

Donna Bridges
Tracy Carter
Leslie Sperrazza
Jack Elder
Ernie Ricketts, DoHR
Trish Pulley, DoHR Liaison
Pam Busby
Kathy Anderson

Call to Order

Chair George Zukotynski called the November 14, 2008, Steering Committee meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Review of August Meeting Minutes

George asked if everyone had received the Draft October minutes and if there were any changes needed. Jesse requested a minor change and the minutes were approved. George asked Kandi to finalize the minutes and send them to Sharon and Trish at DoHR for posting.

Officers and Committee Reports

Secretary:	Kandi Thomas – No report
Treasurer:	Kathy Anderson – No report
Newsletter:	Nat Johnson – No newsletter yet. See details in business.
Web page:	George provided an update from our last meeting. DoHR has updated the web-page for current events and posted the recent pictures from the Golf Tournament. Further discussion follows in New Business.
TGMI/TGEI Fall Conference:	George discussed the success of the Fall conference and thanked all members for their efforts in planning and participating in the conference.

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- Golf Tournament: We discussed the need to reflect recent purchases of items for the next golf event in the official Treasurer's records.
- Holiday Breakfast: Nat and Emily reported that planning is well underway. Emily is working on the agenda/program and the event registration will go out to alumni next week. Nat said the entertainment is set and the decoration committee is set. The date is set for December 16, 2008, at Ellington Agricultural Center. See New Business.
- Community Service Project: Lamont Price – Chair No Report as all projects are complete or planned.

New Business

Fall Conference

George said he had heard positive comments and that the conference was a success. We have not seen conference evaluations results but believe it was overall a success.

Web Page

George, Karen, Pam met with Karen Eddy, Trish Pulley, and Debbie Eggers on October 31, 2008, to discuss continuing efforts on the web-page project. DoHR has updated the current events section and has included pictures from our recent Golf Tournament. Efforts are still in progress to update the web-page format in terms of the Governor's web-page template. Many long term changes will occur with the format changes in the future. The next step involves future meetings with DoHR so we can maintain the focus toward completion of the web-page project. We discussed that the next steering committee will have goals to accomplish to finalize this project and to then maintain a fully functioning and up-to-date web-page.

Newsletter

Nat reported that Trish Pulley is close to posting the newsletter. Nat asked Trish to provide him a copy before the posting. We anticipate this to occur soon. See also discussion in By-Laws section.

Holiday Breakfast

Nat and Emily reported that planning for the Holiday Breakfast is well underway. Entertainment by the band Second Nature is set. Nat and Gene Naifeh have discussed the menu and food preparation for event. Emily is working on the agenda/program which is almost complete. Emily reported that the registration form will go out next week and that

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Kathy would collect the registration fees. The fee is the same as last year. George reported that Dr. Tom Kohntopp has had several inquiries from the new TGEI Class of 2008 regarding their interest in the details of the Holiday Breakfast. Nat will need volunteers for clean-up after the breakfast. Emily and Nat will send thank-you cards to all volunteers following the event.

Nomination of New Members for the Steering Committee

George stated that the ballots were coming in.

Proposed Amendment to By-Laws

Prior to this meeting George had sent the steering committee members the By-Laws with proposed changes to Article IX. These changes involve new communication tools to improve communication across Alumni Membership. Communication is imperative and can take many forms, including the TGEI web-page, e-mails, announcements, newsletters, or other methods. George has shared the proposed amendment with Trish and Karen and expects their comments soon. We also discussed a change to Article V, section 2, item d. which is needed for consistency with Article IX changes. George will finalize the proposed amendment and send to alumni in accordance with Article X for discussion and vote at the annual meeting. Any other changes to the By-Laws pending future changes in the TGI program will occur if necessary as DoHR moves forward.

Other Business

We discussed the recent Strategic Planning Meetings that have occurred with DoHR and TGI Alumni. We are still seeking to understand the vision that DoHR has for Leadership Development and the TGI program. We discussed the issues which have been raised during these strategic planning meetings which have caused concern among the TGI Alumni. These issues include plans to merge the TGEI and TGMI tracks, to bring the TGI program in-house as opposed to renewing the existing contract with the University of Tennessee, changes in the duration and location of the EI and MI classes going forward, the number of participants, among others. Without clarity of the DoHR vision, the steering committee is uncertain of the role we will play in the future. We all plan to attend the next strategic planning meeting scheduled for December 1, 2008. We will seek to clarify with DoHR their expectations of the TGI program and Leadership Development for state government.

Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be scheduled by Nat Johnson and is currently planned for January 2009, unless we determine the need to meet subsequent to the December 1, 2008, strategic planning meeting.